

30-31 JULY 2016 | THE BUSINESS TIMES WEEKEND

Swing

by sphgolf

Poses IN GOLF

HOW POSTURE INFLUENCES
A PERSON'S PERFORMANCE

HENRIK STENSON

MAJOR GOAL DONE,
NOW HE'S AFTER OLYMPIC GOLD

THE AUDI INTERVIEW

MEET GAYATRI BOSS G. SHANMUGAM



OYSTER PERPETUAL
YACHT-MASTER 40




ROLEX


Cortina watch
高登钟表

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WATCH FEATURED SUBJECT TO STOCK AVAILABILITY

editor's
letter

BY
S. MURALI

IN TIME WITH



ROLEX



That was links perfection. I've never seen anything like that. It was incredible.

— SIR NICK FALDO, HIMSELF A THREE-TIME OPEN CHAMPION, REFERRING TO THE BATTLE BETWEEN STENSON AND MICKELSON

GREATEST EVER FINISH

Did you watch it?

The recent British Open duel between Henrik Stenson and Phil Mickelson is now arguably the greatest ever finish to a golf Major.

The two 40-somethings left the alleged Big Four (Jason Day, Jordan Spieth, Dustin Johnson and Rory McIlroy) in the dust as they put on a golf exhibition at Royal Troon for the ages.

A colleague suggested that Stenson's putting was the real key to his final round eight-under-par 63. While I agree his Odyssey putter lived up to its White Hot moniker, every other aspect

of the 40-year-old Swede's game was out of this world.

No one else was hitting a three-wood close to 300 yards, on the fairway, in blustery Scottish winds.

No one else was ripping seven-iron shots over 200 yards with pinpoint accuracy to pot-hole-bunker-guarded greens.

No one else was hitting chips out of thick rough to gimmie distance with nonchalance.

Wait, there was someone else doing some of that, and it was his playing partner and opponent Mickelson.

It is really hard to compre-

hend the level of golf the two men dished out over the four days, with third-placed JB Holmes finishing 11 shots behind Mickelson. But what, for me, is even more remarkable is that neither entered the week as favourite to claim the Claret Jug.

Stenson has never won a Major and Mickelson, at 46, is a pick for the sentimental suckers among us. But the Swede's record-setting 20-under total beat each of the Big Four by a staggering 16 shots or more on a course with one of the toughest back nines in Open history.

And Mickelson's 17-under

score has only been equalled or bettered in four of the 144 previous editions of the storied tournament.

That makes him the most unlucky loser in the history of the Open, as far as I am concerned.

Even the lefty admitted later that he "played close to flawless golf but still was beat".

It was a day when even flawless might not have been good enough.

As three-time Open winner Nick Faldo said, it was a day of "perfection".

Something, he argues, we may never witness again.

Sweden's Henrik Stenson being congratulated by Phil Mickelson of the US after winning the British Open golf championship.

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